

CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come they were all with one accord in one place." Acts 2:1.
"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:4.

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VIGILANCE AND STRENGTH

Now is the Time for Vigorous Action and Close Fellowship and Harmony.

Stick to Bible Teaching on Every Line.

This is a time for the greatest religious activity the world has ever known. Everybody that has salvation ought to be on the move. There is no time for rest and ease. No time for worldly pleasure or what is commonly termed recreation.

Everybody must hear the gospel message, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3,5. They must hear about holiness, too, for it takes holiness to complete salvation. Heb. 12:14. And of course they must be told about the Holy Ghost and what He will do when He comes into His temple to abide. Acts 10:46. Divine healing and the return of our Lord must be made known throughout the world.

Who is going to proclaim this wonderful message but those who have the experience? No body else is able to tell it. "The husbandman that laboreth must be first partaker of the fruits." 2 Tim. 2:6. Men who have not been baptized with the Holy Ghost may try to tell it, but they make a miserable failure. The common churches have been trying to evangelize the lost world for about one hundred and thirty years, but we are told there are more heathens today than when they first began. They have been trying to do this work without being baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire. But it can never be done without the Holy Ghost, and no body should attempt to preach or evangelize any more without the Holy Ghost.

Jesus said, "Tarry ye***until ye be endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:49), then "Go ye *** and teach all nations." But they have been trying to educate the heathen out of their heathenish ways, probably the best they could do without the Holy Ghost. But now it is time for men and women to "go" who are filled with the Holy Ghost and can demon-

strate God's power and show the signs.

There is no place now for weaklings or those who are heedless or inattentive. To do the work that is required now, it is going to take men and women who are possessed with vigilance and strength. Peter's command is to "Be sober, be vigilant." 1 Pet. 5:8. Vigilance is a virtue of great importance in all who are in the work of the Lord. Vigilance and strength are indispensable for all who name the name of Christ, and attempt to be His followers.

The primary meaning of the word "vigilance" is to "stir, to excite, to rouse, to agitate." This is the very thing we must do. Our message must be so full of fire that it will awaken the people and stir them into action. Unless this is done, we are more or less a failure. Jesus says, "Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt." (Math. 12:33) This means something must be done. We must burn the message into the people so deep that it will have such an effect as to make them take action in some way.

And if we expect to awaken others and stir them to action it is necessary for us to be wide awake ourselves. We must not even allow ourselves to become as the Virgins of Math. 25 who will be sleeping and slumbering when the cry is raised, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh! go ye out to meet Him." We must rather be of those that give the notice, or of the company with the Bridegroom.

There are too many sleeping and slumbering now, and while the time away in other things, when they ought to be in the Master's vineyard or white harvest field. But there is no use to go if you can't keep up the fire. But it is often the case that workers get fired up the more as

they go into the work regular. And often they become more spiritual as they give their time more to prayer and special active service for the Lord.

Not only is the command given to be vigilant, but there is as much emphasis placed on the command to "Be strong," as there is to be vigilant. "Be strong," says Paul at 1 Cor. 16:13. Again the same apostle urges the brethren to be strong as shown at Eph. 6:10. "Be strong," says Paul to Timothy. 2 Tim. 2:1 "Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus." Now is the time for the weak to say they are strong. Joel 3:10.

Our people must be possessed with vigilance and strength. If any body has to be sleepy and weak, let it be some body else. We claim to know the Lord and at Daniel 11:32 we read that "the people that do know their God shall be strong." So if we give way to weakness and sluggishness, I'm afraid it is a sign that we do not know the Lord as well as we have professed to know Him.

These are the days that vigilance and strength are required. Now is the time for vigorous action and close fellowship and harmony. We have no strength to waste. We want our strength to count something for God and the salvation of souls. Close fellowship and harmony helps the work along. But where the fellowship is wanting and there is a lack of harmony the work is hindered.

Where there is nonfellowship and friction existing it drives souls to hell. If you want to hinder the salvation of souls, just get contrary and "fly off the handle" when things do not go to suit you. If you have been strong, such action will weaken you at once. Anger, wrath, malice, contention, evil surmisings and disagreements do not belong to the children of God. Harmony, fellowship, vigorous action, strength and vigilance are all necessary for every lover of God.

There is no demand for differences to arise. And as long as there is that sweet humility and submissiveness that is taught in the Book, there will be no lingering differ-

ences that will interfere with the good work of the Lord. Of course we must stick to Bible teaching on every line, but people can become selfish even about that, and place their own construction upon it and not submit to it rightly divided.

It is common to hear people say, "I am going the Bible way," and not infrequently do these same parties have some petty opinions and theories that count more to them than the straight Word of God rightly divided. And when something is said or done that crosses their views and ideas they are ready to bristle up and enter into controversy and contention, and thus create such friction and disturbance that many hearts are made sad and sinners become disgusted.

But such is not the case with the "true blue" humble followers of our Master. This class will show the loving spirit whether their advice is followed or not. Indeed, many things may be said and done contrary to their ideas and thoughts, but no one will know it. And when it comes to doctrine and discipline that is not an individual matter. We have certain general principles that are well known and that all must follow. External and cross views are not necessary.

In our services for worship it is necessary that all throw their whole souls into His service. When we sing we should sing with life and the love of God floating out on the atmosphere from full and loving hearts. The musical instruments that are used should sound forth the praises of God. There is scarcely any musical instrument that can be rejected. While we use organs and pianos probably the most, others can be used just as well for the glory of God.

A few years ago many were rather prejudiced against the use of the brass bands and stringed instruments, but God has so wonderfully honored the use of nearly all kinds of musical instruments until in more recent years our people have decided that the musical instruments belong to the Lord and His service, the same as houses and lands, trains and autos, money and the mail service. The devil uses the mails, trains,

autos, and musical instruments, but we do not have to deprive ourselves of the use of them for God's service just because the devil uses them.

In speaking of Zion, which is the Old Testament name for the church, the Psalmist sings, "The Lord loveth the gates of Zion. ***As well the singers as the players on instruments shall be there." And now is the time for the return of His Church. With the return of His church comes all the signs, gifts, power, glory, songs, music and turning the world upside down as in days of yore.

The last two are Psalms prophetic in their signification and have their application and fulfillment in the gospel dispensation. There has been no other time they would fit quite so well as now. "Let the children of Zion (the church) be joyful in their King. Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp. *** Let the saints be joyful in glory. *** Praise him with sound of the cornet (margin): praise him with the psalter and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs." All these are for use in the last days. No people of any age could rejoice as we can now, and no people on earth today can claim this fulfillment like the Church of God. Surely this is ours.

All such music and dancing indicates life and vigilance and strength, and calls for vigorous action on the part of all of God's children. And we must wax stronger and stronger, bolder and bolder, march through the land with a victorious tread and tramp, tramp, tramp, and let our light shine away the darkness and gloom from all who will accept the true gospel light. And our fellowship and harmony must be so complete that discussions and divisions, and crosses among ourselves will not be known.

With proper vigilance and strength, vigorous action, close fellowship and harmony, there will be no time for frictions and disagreements, nor even misunderstandings that will amount to anything. But it will truly be said of us everywhere we go, They are the Lord's disciples because they love each other so dearly.—John 13:25.

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

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We hope to get enough ahead so we can send others out soon. Hope to hear from the balance of the churches soon.

Eupora, Miss.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and All the Dear Saints—Greetings in Jesus' Dear Name:

I am praising God for what He has done for me. I just thank Him for sparing my life until I heard the true gospel preached.

There are some people here who do not believe in this way but I do hope that God will open their eyes and they may see the right way, and turn before it is too late. Of course they think they

are having a good time, but if they could live a hundred years here and have all that could be wished for, what would that be, to be compared with eternity.

May God help us all and give us more faith is my prayer.

I thank God for the wonderful meeting which has just closed at this place. Brother Davis conducted the services. Olive Bowie and Naomi McCarter from near Tomnolen helped in the meeting. Several were saved, sanctified and about twenty were filled with the Holy Ghost, with Bible evidence of speaking in other tongues. Twenty three were received into the church. We now have thirty-four members. I have not yet received the Holy Ghost. But I often think of the song, "I'm to the highlands bounds, I'm seeking higher ground, I can't remain in all this plain, I'm to the highlands bound."

I ask all the dear saints who reads this to pray that I may receive the Holy Ghost.

I would be glad to hear from any of the saints, for I need help.

I feel that there are too many of us who haven't faith enough. We are afraid to give God the praise and do what he wants us to do. We are afraid some one will laugh and scorn us. But praise God for the verse.

The Spirit within says forward go, be not afraid my child to how. The Bible says if we are ashamed of Him before men, he will be ashamed of us before His Father which is in heaven.

Your sister seeking the Holy Ghost,
Nell McAllister.

Carmi. Ill.

Dear Brother Tomlinson—Greeting in Jesus Dear Name:

Just closed the meeting here last night with victory. We set the church in order here with forty-two members with the pastor brother Tony Ford and a young minister from Kentucky, brother Jimmie Blanks.

There was six saved and six sanctified and five baptized with the Holy Spirit. Two sisters from Evansville came to help us in the meeting brother S. O. Gillaspine from Bompas Creek was with us two days. We enjoyed his short stay. I am feeling so much better the church gets bigger the truth shall prevail.

Lovingly yours,

D. P. Barnett.

REPORT

Dear Brother Tomlinson and All the Saints—Greetings in Jesus' Name:

We are praising God for full and free salvation through the precious blood and for victory over every thing. Hallelujah!

We have just closed a meeting at Hughston, W. Va. with great victory. I don't remember how many were saved and sanctified but there were twenty-three filled with the blessed Holy Ghost for we heard them speak in other tongues. Glory, glory!

One man came to the meeting on crutches but he went home filled with the Holy Ghost and crutches under his arm. Well hallelujah!

God sure is in old West Virginia. We set the church in order with eleven members, all filled with the Holy Ghost, and more to follow soon. We'll have a large number to baptize in water.

We can never thank the good people enough in Hughston for their love and kindness and the way they took care of us. May God's richest blessings rest upon them all. We are expecting greater things there yet.

"There are other things as well

But it would take too long to tell

Praise the Lord. We are blessed with every good

But we're little understood, This is a wonderful neighborhood."

Praise the Lord! Glory, hallelujah!

Pray much for your brother and sister in the hills of old West Virginia.

W. M. Rumler, and Wife.

Udike, Miss.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

Have just finished reading your experience in the book entitled "The Last Great Conflict," which I enjoyed wonderfully.

I am a free Methodist woman. We have a class here but that is all. Scarcely ever have any manifestation of the Spirit. I may be the one that is backslidden but it seems that the whole class is in a backslidden condition.

I believe the whole Bible from lid to lid and if it takes the baptism of the Holy Ghost to take me through the pearly gates I want to start over and get all God has for me.

I am more than middle aged and the devil has scared me quite a lot. I have found no pleasure in sin. I have an awful experience

but will not give it here. It would make a good sized book. I feel that I must move up from where I am or the end will be serious for me.

We have brother G. T. Cook, a Church of God man, and his family living with us. I certainly enjoy them. They and myself are more than anxious for a Church of God preacher to come here and preach as long as he will. We have a union church house here and no denomination can object to him coming. We have plenty of room in our house for a preacher to stay with us. This is a needy field and while feel powerless my heart goes out for this community.

Please come or send some one that can find the diamonds in the rough.

I want you to pray for me especially. I fell on the ice a few days ago and haven't been able to get a good long breath since. Am injured internally.

Yours desiring the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Annie Wells Tucker.

Gone to be with Jesus

On Wednesday morning, January 10, 1917, dear sister Mary Wallum departed this life to live with Jesus and the holy angels. She was a good Christian woman, saved, sanctified, filled with the Holy Ghost and a member of the Church of God. She was loved by all who knew her. She leaves a husband and four little children to mourn her death. Her baby was only two weeks old when she died.

Sister Zelma Wallum, sister Mollie Bailey and I went to see her and she asked us to pray. We had prayer with her and although she was weak, she prayed and talked in tongues and the power was on her. She seemed to bear her sufferings patiently all the way through although her faith was not strong enough to trust the Lord for her body.

After she had passed away there was a sweet smile on her face as if she had just fallen asleep in the arms of Jesus.

Dear saints, pray that God will fill that vacant place in the home and shield her little ones.

Our loss is heaven's gain and we must be submissive to our Father's will.

Your sister in Jesus,
Georgia Broughton.
Blanche, Ky.

Poplar Grove, Ark.

Dear Brother Tomlinson—

Bell Mills, Ala.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and All the Saints—Greeting in Jesus' Name:

I am so glad that I can say I am saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost with the Bible evidence of speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. Praise His sweet name.

I have been in the way for over two years and I am more determined to fight the battle for the Lord than ever before. I want to be a bright and shining light to the lost sinners.

We all have our work to do if we will deny ourselves, and do what Jesus wants us to do. He has planted a vineyard that we all might be kept busy for Him.

Pray for our band here, that we may stay unspotted from the world.

Let us pray more in 1917 than we have in the past.

Your sister in Jesus,
Mae Wise.

Ft. Pierce, Fla.

Dear Brother Tomlinson—Greeting in Jesus' Name:

I am still saved, sanctified and baptized with the Holy Ghost. Praise God forever. I thank God for showing me this holy way. It is so sweet to trust in Jesus.

Pray for me that I may be true, also pray for my loving companion and our three boys that they may come to Jesus before it is too late.

Your sister under the blood,
Ella N. Smith.

Ft. Pierce, Fla.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I want to ask all the saints to pray for me that I may be saved, sanctified and baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire.

I belong to the Baptist church but I want the Holy Ghost. I want the over coming power so I can overcome Satan and his powers.

Mary Starling.

Greeting in Jesus' Name:

I belong to the dear old Church of God and I know I am one of God's children for He baptized me with the Holy Ghost with the Bible evidence as they did on the day of pentecost. Acts 2:4.

I am sick and I am trusting God to heal me. He has healed me before now. For two years He has been my Physician, and mean to trust Him regardless of the cost. I have been very sick for a week, so please pray as soon as you read this.

Mrs. Lena Stacy.

HOW TO GET HEALED

Sam C. Perry.

With many it is not a question, so much, as to the truth of the teaching of healing in the Word, and too they see it verified in the lives of others, but it is a question of how they are to get it for themselves.

God has blessed, and does bless on many lines, but they fail, some way, to have the appropriating faith, hence are not healed.

In this matter, as in other matters, relative to Christian experience, we feel that the Bible is plain and explicit in its directions.

St. Paul says "if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you." Rom. 8:11.

From this we gather that in getting healing for the body, the most important thing is living in the fullness of God, where the Spirit of God dwells within us and our whole life is appropriated to His will and service, and as the Spirit has full control of us He quickens and heals the body for purposes of God's glory, for the Lord hath said "he hath set apart him that is godly for Himself. So that it is for God's glory and the interest of His kingdom to heal, as much as it is for the comfort and happiness of the one being healed.

In coming to God for healing we should desire it for His glory, that He might have praise in us. Perhaps we have failed to get the healing because our motive in seeking it was not so much His glory as our own selfish gratification.

God has said "call upon me in the day of trouble, and I will answer thee and thou shalt glorify me" Psa. 50:15. This is the first object in all true prayer, God's glory. A life that is lived for the glory of God includes answered prayer for every kind of needed blessing, and this certainly includes healing for the body. "What things soever ye desire when ye pray believe that ye receive them and you shall have them."

"If ye abide in me and my words abide in you ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you." In view of such promises as these how should any earnest Christian fail to get healing in answer to prayer? This is the great secret, live in touch with Him and you can

get what He has promised.

Jesus directed that by the laying on of hands healing was given. Mark 16. It seems that this was a sign given to holiness in general and for all time and with no particular limitations or restrictions. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved * * * and these signs shall follow them that believe * * * they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." Any true believer in Christ is in order laying on hands and offering the prayer of faith for the healing of the sick.

Then St. James directed, "Is any sick among you let him call for the elders of the church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up." This is a simple and easy operation, and in these days is often accompanied by a special deliverance of the one anointed, any minister, deacon, or faithful believer in Christ may do the anointing.

Again we read in 1 Cor. 12:28 of the "gifts of healing" which, among other things, God has set in the church.

We do not know to what extent any in the church possess these gifts, but perhaps some do, in a greater or less degree, it is our privilege.

With some about us who have "gifts of healings," some who will anoint and pray for us, with the laying on of hands and Christ the Healer giving us such unlimited promises may we not, in a greater way, enjoy the glorious inheritance that God has provided for us on this line.

Byington, Tenn.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and Saints Everywhere--Greetings in the Name of Jesus Our Lord.

Praise God, I am still able to shout the victory through our blessed Redeemer.

We have some blessed meetings here at the Church of God near Solway. We had blessed times with the Lord at the old church building and now we are in the new church building and He is still manifesting His presence, power and approval and enabling His children to still shout the victory.

Brother Wesley Letsinger, the pastor, gives out the Word in the demonstration and power of the Spirit and God sets His approval on it. Last Sunday after a strong

sermon we prayed for the sick, then we had a time of rejoicing in the Lord and He put His power on some to shout, others to dance, play the organ, talk in tongues and some put their hands in the stove and took out the coals of fire.

One brother rubbed the coals in his hands and in speaking of it to some of the saints afterward he said they felt like velvet. It was indeed a time of rejoicing.

There have been some wonderful cases of instantaneous healing lately. I will just mention one.

During the recent snow one of the brothers had His feet so badly frost bitten that he had to pull off his shoes. His feet were exceedingly painful, so he asked the saints to pray for them and Lord healed them instantly. Praise His holy name!

He wants us to come to Him with every thing, no matter how great or how small the trouble may be. Some will not go to the Lord about what they call little things, but He wants His children to come to Him with the little things just as a child goes to its mother. I have heard people say that they did not want to trouble the Lord with little things but we are admonished to cast all our care upon Him, for "He careth for us."

How blessed to know that the great God of heaven is looking at us and taking notice of all our needs, knows all our cares and trouble and is present to help when we call on Him.

May God help each one of us to be our best this year. Now is the time we have so let's do our best now for tomorrow may never come to some of us.

Let's do as the old proverb says "Make hay while the sun shines."

Yours in Christian love,
Lorena Cotton.

Hardy, Miss.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and All the readers of the Little Paper:

I feel like sounding a note of praise for the victory God is giving me on the battlefield, glory to His dear name. I have had victory ever since I set my foot on Mississippi soil. Hallelujah!

Praise and honor to my Captain who is directing this battle against the enemy. His orders I will obey.

Just closed a nine-days' meeting at Eupora, Miss. God's power was displayed in our midst in a wonderful way. The entire country was stirred by the mighty

power of God. There was not room enough for half the seekers at the altar. Twenty-one received the Holy Ghost and others were saved and sanctified. I set the church in order with thirty-five members.

The meeting closed with wonderful victory and the altar was full of seekers.

God bless all the saints every where and don't forget to pray for me.

Your brother in Christ,
J. A. Davis.

Eldorado, Ill.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and All the Saints of God--Greetings to you in Jesus' Dear Precious Name:

We have been having some wonderful meetings here in Eldorado since I have been here the last three weeks, while brother Barnett, the pastor, has been holding a meeting in Carmi, Ill., and organizing the Church of God there.

Thirty-three came into the great Church of God there, and there are more that will follow. Praise God for victory just now, hallelujah!

In the past three weeks here there has been nine or ten received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and several saved and sanctified in cottage prayer meetings and at the church. We are having cottage meetings every night except regular meeting nights at the church and the Lord is blessing the work, and giving us precious souls for our hire and building up the work.

A week ago Sunday night we had the most wonderful meeting I was ever in. No language can express how the power of God fell and settled down upon the vast audience that was present and after the message was delivered on the second coming of Jesus, several came to the altar and one was sanctified and one received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. Praise God.

While reading a part of the article in the Evangel this evening concerning the call for Church of God ministers to New York, Vermont and Missouri to some of the saints the Lord put a burden upon our hearts to pray for the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into the harvest and we went to God in prayer and I believe He heard us as we cried out to Him and I feel that there are some here in Eldorado that will soon be out preaching the gospel of the kingdom that Jesus said shall be preached in all the world for a witness

Camp Meeting

Miami, Fla., R 2, B. 1.

The colored people of the Church of God will hold their annual camp meeting at Miami, Fla., March 1 to 10, 1917.

Come and be unloaded and be born again. St. John 3:7, Sanctified, Heb. 13:12, Holy Ghost and fire; Acts 2:4; 10:46; 11:96.

We extend a cordial invitation to all the saints in Florida, Bahama Islands, and all the states. This may be the last camp meeting we will ever have in peaceful times. We earnestly hope that all of God's children can come together with one mind, one mouth, one heart and one soul. We expect a glorious time. Yes, Jesus will be there.

Yours, a light for Jesus,
J. D. Williams, Clerk.

Poughkeepsie, N Y.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and Saints of Christ--Greeting:

I being in the same household of faith of the higher life which is taught in your little paper makes us one accord like pentecost. I take several pentecostal papers. I am the only one in this place of about 35,000 people, that speaks in tongues, and sing tunes in the Spirit. There are a few people here that claim pentecost, but they do not teach it except the coming of Jesus.

This the time of the latter rain and I want to hear from all parts of the world because my heart and soul is with it and I am not satisfied with less.

V. W. Dusenber,
Poughkeepsie,
38 S. Cherry st., N. Y.

W. H. Cross, overseer of Bahama Islands, landed at Nassau, N. P., on the 24th Jan. 1917. He reports a loving welcome by the saints when he arrived. We will expect a report from him soon.

unto all nations; then shall the end come.

Let me exhort and admonish each one that reads this testimony, that if God has called you to preach the gospel, for Jesus' sake and for the sake of precious lost souls "Go" at any cost or sacrifice, for the time is short and if you disobey God and fail to fill your calling, there will be souls required at your hands at the judgment.

Please pray for me that God will use me for His glory and make me a soul winner in His kingdom.

Your brother in Christ in the Masters' work,
Herbert Martin.

Cocoanut Grove, Fla.
Dear Evangel Readers—
Greetings in Jesus' precious Name:

Beloved, I praise God this morning for the blessed plan of salvation, a real "know so" religion. Something that saves to the uttermost a real deliverance from sin. Praise the Lord.

Dear friends, one year ago found me a poor sin sick backslider, also sick in body and near death's door and had I gone just then I would have been forever lost. My dear wife was also sick at the same time and on Dec. 14 1915 the heavenly Father called her home, but in mercy he spared me and raised me up. About one month later I realized how she was gone to where I could never see her again unless I changed. So, beloved, I came back to Jesus and asked Him in mercy to save me once more. Dear reader, there was a load of sin on my heart like a mountain. Jesus' blood washed it away. Praise the Lord, then He led a long until last June He really did sanctify me. Praise His name and then on December 23rd the Comforter came in and oh what a wonderful time. Oh! how sweet to be able to say the Comforter abides.

Dear reader, there is joy in my soul as I pen these lines tell it to the world. I am willing to go. I feel the fire burning in my soul. I really want to turn loose from every tie and go to the end of the journey with Him and trust Him with body and soul. Oh reader, I love Him tonight glory, praise Him ever more!

Oh, beloved, time would be too short for me to tell all He has done for me.

Reader, are you following Him? Then let's fire up and as the hart panteth after the water brook so let our souls pant after God. Praise the Lord. Ps. 42:1

Are you a backslider? Remember God says I am married to the backslider see Jer. 3:14, read Hosea 14:4. I will heal their backslidings I will love them freely for mine anger is turned away from him." I feel like God has really healed my backslidings. This world has lost its charm for me. It cost me a great deal to get where I am just now, but blessed be God I am glad I started, I don't regret it at all, praise the Lord.

Brother, sister, friend let's not trifle with God. See Prov. 1:20-23; 2 Kings 18:21; Heb. 10:31.

Friends, I have given up all for Him after about seven years of up and down life and I am going through at any cost. I have wrote this for

God's glory and with the hope that some soul may be cheered on and encouraged thereby. See Malachi 3:16. All glory to His name. Amen.

Would like to hear from brother Hilliard Allen. When last heard from was at Powell, Fla.

Your brother under the blood,

T. P. Douglas.

Chattanooga, Tenn.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and All the Saints—Greetings in Jesus' Name:

I praise God for a full and free salvation. He has sweetly saved, sanctified and baptized me with the Holy Ghost. I want to hold Jesus up everywhere I go. He said that if He was lifted up He would draw all men unto Him.

I praise God for the dear old church. I'm to glad I'm a little member somewhere in the Church of God. Glory to His name. The way grows brighter to me each day of my life. I want to live closer than ever before. Praise God. I want to be found the blood at all times waiting for the coming of our blessed Savior.

Pray for me that I'll be true. One of your little fifteen year old sisters,

Belle Bain.

THE NEW YEAR

Alice Stang

The old year is gone, but we are left yet, Many friends have been taken, we shall not forget. Some very near ones, that were so dear, Have not been spared to meet the New Year.

Around some one's fireside, they are greatly missed; Their dear form is gone, they've so often kissed.

But those that were ready, their sins all forgiven. How happily they'll spend the New Year in heaven.

But it makes some feel sad and drear To think how lonely 'twill be the coming year.

But the ones that are gone are so sweetly at rest With the angels in glory so we know it is best.

I want to spend the new year in prayer, Laying aside every weight of earthly care;

And if the Lord prospers me great or small, I promise to give Him a tenth of it all.

I want to make this the most valuable year, If God spares my life, and leaves me here,

Higher and higher I want to climb, I trust that I will not lose any time.

I'm going about doing good, Visiting the sick wherever I should. We cannot sit still and ever get there. Many things can be done by fasting and prayer.

So faint not away but be of good cheer, You can do so much for Jesus during the new year.

The old year is gone and the deeds we have done, Let's make the new year a much better one.

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1916

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Cooper's Town, Abasco, Bahamas.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and All the Evangel Family—
Greetings in the Blessed Name of Jesus, our Great King:

We are a little noisy band here of about fifty and we are enjoying this latter rain.

We have started in on another year and we desire a special prayer from all of our brothers and sisters that our Father will give us a glorious year.

We are truly thankful to God for the way He has blessed us and by His grace we are determined to stand true to Him.

Beloved, I am truly glad to recommend our God as a Healer for both soul and body. I am so thankful to see how the dear ones here are trusting the dear Lord for their bodies as well as their souls. Praise God.

We had a wonderful service Christmas eve night, from seven o'clock until about six next morning. It was truly a wonderful time.

Some times every body would be on their feet shouting and praising God. All that were present had a chance to preach and some times you could hardly hold yourself. Glory to God in the highest.

We have a blind sister and crippled brother here and we desire your prayers that God will give us the faith and grant that signs and wonders may be done in the name of the Holy Ghost, Jesus.

We have prayed for the sister several times and she says that she can see a little now. Thank God.

May all the dear ones that read this think upon the little band at Cooper's Town.

With love to all I am,
Your brother in Christ,
William R. Franks.

Alabama City, Ala.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and All the Saints—Greeting in Jesus' Name:

We have just returned from our State Convention and are still feasting on the good things from the Lord we received while there.

As we begin to write this we can't help feeling our inability to express the fellowship, unity and love that prevailed during the entire convention. There wasn't a single cross spirit there or if there was one it failed to be manifest.

We shall never forget the discourses of our brothers Payne, Ellis, Simpson and Holcomb. Also the tears of our dear sister Howell and

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singing of brother Reynolds. Oh! such unity as existed "wonderful" doesn't express it.

This convention was surpassed by our Annual Assembly only in enrollment, but not in love and the power of God.

Sometimes there was weeping, sometimes there was dancing and speaking in tongues, and at other times there would be holy quietness take possession of the congregation.

We will never forget the day our overseer had to part from us, how every one fell on his neck and kissed him amid tears. It reminded us of Paul separating from his folks in his time.

Truly Paul's time is not over.

We shall never forget the hospitality of the good people of Dora.

It seems yet as if we could hear the voice of Uncle Flint Adair as it would ring out after each service "Less go," this meant everyone and we all knew it, also we remember how brothers Alford, Clark and others would wait behind to see that no one was left out.

We will remember this convention as long as we live, we won't call it our annual convention as this one was so good we would like to have one in Alabama City and call them semi-annual.

If we could have had our "General Overseer" it would have looked like Harriman, Tenn.

We expect these conventions in Alabama in a few years to surpass what our annual assembly is now.

We are confident every one went away benefited full of fire and expecting to help evangelize Alabama.

May God bless every one.

Alonzo Gann
and Wife.

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